



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

# THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

## HOW TO FURNISH A SIX-ROOM FLAT FOR THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS.



O furnish a flat of six rooms for three hundred dollars requires careful planning, for the sum is small, but the problem is by no means impossible or extremely difficult. Of course the furnisher in such a case cannot expect to supply Brussels or tapestry carpets, hair mattresses or china for her table. She must also be content with plated spoons, plain furniture, and linens of medium

fineness. But with pictures, bric-a-brac and blooming plants to supply the ornamental and decorative touches, the furnisher can provide a neat, cosy home with all the needed means for household comfort within the three hundred dollars. First let her decide not to buy cheap and tawdry furniture, but such as will be lasting and useful wherever she may pitch the home tent.

A flat is easier to furnish than the same six rooms would be in a country village house, because so much is already supplied by the landlord. Shades are placed at every window, so that no outlay is absolutely necessary in this direction. The kitchen has the range and the stationary tubs, occasionally a refrigerator is built in, and the floors are well laid, and often a border is stained around each room, making the apartment ready for rugs without any outlay. It is best to divide the sum into three parts of one hundred dollars each for the parlor and sitting room, two bedrooms, and kitchen and dining-room.

### PARLOR.

The first thing to settle in furnishing the little parlor is the floor covering. An ingrain rug is always preferable, because it will fit any future room, and is both healthful and easy to clean. One that will fit the average parlor floor will cost eight dollars, and can readily be found in harmonious tints and graceful, inconspicuous designs. A couch or lounge for a parlor upholstered in cretonne can be found for ten dollars, needing only gay cushions to make it a luxurious resting place. Four chairs are about all a small parlor will contain easily, and these can be bought at three dollars each, and a large one in rattan will cost eight dollars. If these are bought in the natural colors the housewife can freshen them with enamel paint when time and usage have soiled them. A pretty little table of polished oak or cherry may be next added at an outlay of five dollars. Then a light reception chair with stained frame and enamelled rush bottom for two dollars will help the cosy look, as the mistress deftly puts her purchases in place.

If the family are book lovers they will want a bookcase for the steadily growing accumulation of volumes. A low case with oak sides, top and bottom, and shelves with veneered fronts and back of hard wood will cost eight dollars and hold about one hundred books. This, with the books, will give a cultivated look to the otherwise simple furnishings of the room. A writing desk at ten dollars, portières at nine dollars, and two pairs of serim or Madras curtains to furnish the windows will amount in all to seventy-seven dollars.

### SITTING-ROOM.

The little back or sitting room ought to be furnished as a working family room, and yet with a similarity to the parlor, so as to look well when the folding doors that separate them are opened. Floor matting, harmonizing with the parlor rug will cost four dollars. The large table, at least four feet square, around which all may gather, will be of some stained wood, bass-wood probably, and will cost five dollars, and two dollars will buy a pretty velours spread to cover it and add to the prettiness of the room. There should be a large splint bottomed or rush bottomed rocker, for the husband, and a little sewing chair in oak or rattan for the wife, which will add five and three dollars respectively to the outlay. Two more chairs should be added, and it would be good management to select those like the chairs in the dining room, at a cost of six dollars, and these items will, when added to the cost of the parlor furnishings, amount to one hundred dollars.

## TWO BEDROOMS.

A flat bedroom rarely requires more than ten yards of matting, and the floor can therefore be covered for four dollars. A good set of furniture in oak or cherry, in three pieces, bedstead, bureau and washstand, or commode, will cost eighteen dollars. A bedstead alone costs eight dollars, while a dressing case and washstand combined can be had for six dollars. This is useful if the space must be carefully utilized. Good wire springs will cost two dollars and twenty-five cents, while a husk mattress with cotton batting top, which is both healthful and comfortable, costs five dollars. Pillows weighing seven pounds a pair, and made of live geese feathers, cost five dollars the pair. A good pair of wool blankets in white, gray or scarlet may be had for five dollars. Woven spreads are one dollar and twenty-five cents for full size. Three dollars will buy a dainty earthen toilet set, while a dollar and a half more will add a light chair. So that the total outlay for the bedroom, if the full chamber set is bought, is exactly fifty dollars, or one hundred dollars for two bedrooms.

### DINING-ROOM.

The floor of the dining-room should be covered with matting, or a good ingrain rug. A serviceable quality of the former costs forty cents a yard, and an average flat dining-room will require sixteen yards, and the matting will cost six dollars and forty cents. But matting is not as durable as a rug, which has the advantage of being adaptable to any room. A rug six feet square will cost eight dollars, and the occupant of the flat can easily stain the borders of the floor. A good stretcher table, one with four legs and ornamental supporting cross pieces, costs ten dollars in oak or cherry; white ash is a trifle cheaper. This table will be three and one-half feet wide and extend six feet. Six chairs may be bought for nine dollars; they are square seated oak ones, with cane seats and back. A small serving table is more suitable in a modest dining-room than a sideboard; such a one, with two shelves, costs two dollars. The furnisher must supply table linen, dishes, knives, forks and spoons. A large square oak extension dining table costs five dollars; a colored damask cloth for same will cost one dollar. One dozen of extra grade plated knives, forks and teaspoons, one pair of table spoons, one pair desert spoons, one sugar spoon, butter knife, carving knife and fork, with celluloid handles will cost ten dollars. Three table cloths, two and one-half yards long, at seventy-five cents per yard, will cost five dollars and sixty cents, and one dozen napkins to accompany them two and a half dollars. This will leave a little over thirteen dollars for table china, which is a small sum, but with it can be bought sufficient in thin, plain white iron stone, neither clumsy nor unpleasant to look upon, to lay the table for the ordinary meals of such a home. She can buy only two sizes of plates, two platters, a few vegetable dishes in the plain ware, and add desert plates, tumblers, cups and odd pieces in fancy designs which can readily be found even on the ten-cent and twenty-five-cent counters of large china and notion stores. If, however, she has no spoons and forks to get, the added money will buy a dainty porcelain service, or a better and larger harlequin set, as the buyer fancies. The above appointments of the dining-room will amount in all to fifty-six dollars.

### KITCHEN.

The first outlay for the kitchen will be the cooking utensils. These include tinware, woodenware, ironware, agate kettles, cutlery and japanned boxes for bread and cake. Sufficient tinware for a modest home can be bought for three dollars, if the housekeeper is not wholly incompetent to select those that are most useful. Three dollars will buy the few iron pots, spiders, and frying pan, though it will not allow for assorted sizes. The chopping tray and other wooden utensils may be bought for two dollars. Earthen plates, mixing bowls and cups for cooking will cost three dollars more, while three dollars expended in agate ware and kitchen cutlery will buy an ample supply. One bread and one cake box and dipper will cost one dollar more, making the outlay for cooking utensils fourteen dollars.

The next needs are the furniture of the kitchen. The floor can be covered with good oilcloth for six dollars. The set tubs when closed make an excellent table, so that only a small one is needed. One with a deal top and stained legs will cost one dollar. One wooden chair will be one dollar. A lamp will add two

# THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

dollars, and two wooden pail coal buckets and a broom will add two more dollars. Two dollars will purchase sundries in the shape of blacking brushes, clothes hooks, a saw and hammer, etc. The outlay for laundry work is considerable, as a wringer costs three dollars, and a durable clothes boiler one dollar, but by buying economically in the way of basket, rub-board, ironing board and clothes line, pins and flat-irons, the expense may be kept within ten dollars. Flat-irons sell by the pound. Those weighing five pounds are the useful sort, costing twenty-five cents apiece. With two dollars in hand for sundries, the furnisher may have a frugally stocked kitchen for forty-four dollars.

A little home furnished along the lines of these suggestions will not be elegant, but it will have all the needed means of a cosy, comfortable life, together with a nucleus of durable furnishings ready for a larger dwelling place, while the woman who is deft in the use of the paint and staining brush and the needle can add many economical and tasteful articles and pretty bits to special rooms.

## RECAPITULATION.

### PARLOR.

Ingrain rug.....	\$ 8 00
Couch.....	10 00
Four chairs at \$3.00.....	12 00
Large rattan chair.....	8 00
Reception chair.....	2 00
Polished oak table.....	5 00
Bookcase.....	8 00
Two pairs Madras curtains for windows.....	5 00
Portieres.....	9 00
Writing-desk.....	10 00
	<b>\$77 00</b>

### SITTING-ROOM.

Floor matting.....	\$4 00
Stained wood table.....	3 00
Table cover.....	2 00
Splint bottom rocker.....	5 00
Rattan sewing chair.....	3 00
Two chairs.....	6 00
	<b>\$23 00</b>

### BEDROOM No. 1.

Floor matting.....	\$4 00
Set of oak furniture, consisting of bedstead, bureau and washstand.....	18 00
Spring mattress.....	2 25
Husk mattress with cotton top.....	5 00
Pair of pillows.....	3 00
Pair of blankets.....	5 00
Bedsread.....	1 25
Earthen toilet set.....	3 00
Chair.....	1 50
Ingrain rug.....	2 00
Half dozen sheets and pillow cases.....	5 00
	<b>\$50 00</b>

### BEDROOM No. 2.

Same articles for bedroom No. 2.....	<b>\$50 00</b>
--------------------------------------	----------------

### DINING-ROOM.

Ingrain rug.....	\$8 00
Oak table.....	5 00
Colored damask table cover.....	1 00
Six chairs.....	9 00
Side table.....	2 00
Three table cloths.....	5 50
One dozen napkins.....	2 50
Table china, including glassware.....	13 00
One dozen plated knives, forks and teaspoons, 1 pair of table spoons and desert spoons, 1 sugar spoon, butter knife and carving knife and fork.....	10 00
	<b>\$56 00</b>

### KITCHEN.

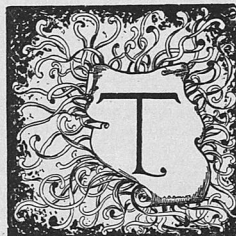
Oilcloth.....	\$6 00
Deal table.....	1 00
Two chairs.....	2 00
Lamp.....	2 00
Two pails and coal bucket and broom.....	2 00
Tinware.....	3 00

Ironware.....	3 00
Earthenware.....	3 00
Chopping tray, knife and wooden utensils.....	2 00
Agate ware and kitchen cutlery.....	3 00
Bread box, dipper, etc.....	1 00
Wringer.....	3 00
Clothes boiler.....	1 00
Basket, rubbing board, ironing board, clothes line and flatirons.....	10 00
Sundries.....	2 00
	<b>\$44 00</b>

Total.....**\$300 00**

## HOW TO DECORATE AND FURNISH A CITY FLAT.—II.

BY EDWARD DEWSON.



THE August, 1891, issue of THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER contained an illustrated article on the subject of "How to Decorate and Furnish a City Flat," showing decorative charts for parlor, den and chamber. In pursuance of our subject, we show herewith decorative charts for the dining-room, hall, chamber and kitchen of same, and to facilitate reference thereto we refer to the plan of the flat published with

our first article.

The treatment of the dining-room is shown in the center of the full-page illustration. The walls, which are in rough plaster, are tinted a delicate olive, and the frieze is in light old gold, with olives, reds and gold by way of contrast, and the ceiling is tinted in buff. The woodwork is in cherry and the general arrangement of the apartment on the side containing the mantelpiece is shown in the illustration. Beneath this is a plan of the apartment itself, showing a large rug on the floor, on which stand two armchairs and the dining-table. The floor is of hard wood, and there are four other chairs in the apartment. The sideboard stands beside the window at the end of the room, and adjoining the door entrance from the hall are the dressers, filling the niches as shown.

There is also a plan as well as a perspective view given of the spare bedroom, showing an armchair, two small chairs, lamp stand, bureau, with a seat running along the oblong window. A closet is shown draped with a handsome portiere. The general coloring of the room is in white and gold, softened with soft yellows and blues. The view of the hall shows a fretwork arch erected as shown on the plan of the hall. There is also a seat of unique design adjoining the balustrades. The wood of the hall is of oak and the general coloring is of dull reds. There is also a general view of the kitchen, with plan showing the position of the range, the sink, washtubs and swinging shelf.

There is a great number of details in the sketches, all of which are highly suggestive of cosy comfort and the homelike feeling that is too rarely found in apartments in this and other cities. Our readers will agree that the artistic possibilities of our subject is a very difficult problem, for an ordinary flat is about as unattractive a place of abode as can be imagined. Life in a flat proves very irksome to people unless it has attractive methods of furnishing, such as we venture to submit to our readers.

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER answers every question on the subject of Interior Decoration. It is a lavishly illustrated monthly Art Journal, devoted to Decorative Art and Art Furnishings, giving information on the Correct Use of Furniture, Carpets, Draperies, Wall and Ceiling Decorations, Carvings, Mosaics, Stained Glass, Glassware, and Bric-a-Brac.

Decorative Charts and Plans of great value are published in each issue, which contains forty pages. Yearly subscription, \$4; Single copies, 35 cents. Address THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER, 150 Nassau Street, New York City.